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OLC 72-0305

8 March 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Representative Durward Hall (R., Mo.)
re Problems in the Intelligence Community

1. Today Mr. Bronson Tweedy and I met with Dr. Hall, of the House Armed Services Committee, in response to his note to the Director of 8 February (see attached).

2. We had first talked briefly with Russ Blandford, Chief Counsel of the Committee, who said he thought Hall was primarily concerned about the danger that the Agency, and perhaps other elements of the community, would become stultified and bureaucratic with the passage of time.

3. When we met with Hall he made clear that he had two concerns: (1) a suspicion that the Director's authority within the community might be diluted or undermined as a result of recent developments, and (2) a fear that, with the passage of time, the Agency might become stultified and bureaucratic as the result of an increasing number of aging, time-serving employees who lacked the vitality and courage to speak out or take initiative. Mr. Tweedy and I went over these points in some detail, calling attention to the President's November announcement regarding changes in the intelligence community. We tried to assure Hall that the Director's authority was in no way impaired, but rather was reinforced, by these measures. We also told him that we were well aware of the problems of deteriorating vitality and initiative in any bureaucracy, but we called attention to the Director's special authority regarding personnel management, to the Agency retirement system, and to the Agency policy of encouraging all members to be heard if they had anything to say.

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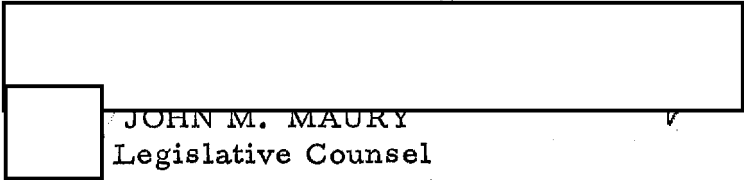
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4. In conclusion, Hall indicated that he felt "somewhat reassured," but we had the impression that these problems would remain on his mind. We were unable to smoke him out as to what had stimulated his concern, but there is evidence that a few Defense types have been bad-mouthing us lately to members of the Committee. Also, the "bureaucratic age" of CIA has been mentioned in places like the Newsweek story recently.

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Att.

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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